

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SNM-05 AID-05 MMO-04 PER-05 SS-15

ABF-01 /050 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7194

UNCLAS MEXICO 21291

FOR ARA/MGT/FM

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, APER, SNAR, MX

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE UNIT/MEXICO TO
STATE DEPARTMENT

REF: A) STATE 282330, B) STATE 290810, C) MEXICO 20635,
D) STATE 298675

1. THE APER TAG AND THE USE OF AID TELEGRAPHIC CHANNELS SUGGESTS POSSIBILITY ARA MAY NOT HAVE BEEN INCLUDED IN THE LATERAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE MESSAGES UNDER REFERENCE. THESE CABLES RELATE TO THE TRANSFER OF THE EMBASSY NARCOTICS ASSISTANCE UNIT FROM AID TO STATE EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 1978. THE TRANSFER OF THE AMERICAN STAFF IS UNDERWAY AND SEEMS CLEAR ENOUGH. HOWEVER, THE MATTER OF SIMULTANEOUSLY TRANSFERRING FSL POSITIONS IS UNCLEAR AND THE EMBASSY REQUESTS CLARIFICATION ON THIS POINT.

2. THE BUREAU WILL RECALL THAT WITH THE CLOSING OF AID/RTAC LAST AUGUST, AID CONTINUED TO FUND FIVE FSL POSITIONS, TWO OF WHICH WERE TO ACCOMMODATE EMPLOYEES WHO PROVIDE ALLOTMENT ACCOUNTING AND VOUCHER SERVICES FOR THE
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AID-FUNDED PORTION OF THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM. SINCE NAU IS SHORTLY TO BE A STATE OPERATION, THE FISCAL SUPPORT FOR THAT ENTITY SHOULD LOGICALLY BECOME A STATE RESPONSIBILITY. IT THUS FOLLOWS THAT THESE TWO AID LOCAL POSITIONS SHOULD ALSO BE TRANSFERRED TO STATE. IF SO, POSITIONS AIDL-06 OCCUPIED BY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER IRMA A. DE TELLO, AND AIDL-08 HELD BY ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT JUAN G. BARRERA

SHOULD BE ADDED TO THE EMBASSY'S CEILING EFFECTIVE
JANUARY 1.

3. THE EMBASSY ALSO SUGGESTS THAT AT THE SAME TIME THE TWO
AID LOCAL POSITIONS WHICH PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
FOR AID'S THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING PROGRAM AND SUPPORT OF
THE POPULATION PROGRAM BE SHIFTED TO STATE, TOGETHER WITH
THE ATTACHED RESPONSIBILITY. TO THAT END, POSITIONS
AIDL-10 OCCUPIED BY ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT SAMUEL CERVANTES,
AND AIDL-03 OCCUPIED BY SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
PATRICIA A. DE SANTOS, SHOULD ALSO BE TRANSFERRED JANUARY
1.

4. FINALLY, THE FIFTH AID FUNDED POSITION ACCOMMODATES
A BILINGUAL SECRETARY FOR AN AID OFFICER (THOMAS DONNELLY)
ASSIGNED TO THE EMBASSY'S OFFICE OF SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS TO
ASSIST IN COORDINATING POPULATION MATTERS. THERE IS MERIT
TO ALSO TRANSFERRING THIS POSITION TO STATE AS WELL, THUS
CLEANING THE SLATE AND OFFERING THE CONCERNED EMPLOYEES
THE ADVANTAGE OF BEING AN INTEGRAL PART OF A MAJOR FSL
TEAM WITH APPROPRIATE CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION
OPPORTUNITIES.

5. IF THESE LATTER THREE POSITIONS ARE SHIFTED TO STATE,
THE EMBASSY'S COST IN SUPPORTING THE THIRD COUNTRY
TRAINING AND POPULATION ENDEAVORS WOULD BE HANDLED THROUGH
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NEGOTIATION OF THE USUAL SHARED ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENTS.

6. MR. DONNELLY APPRECIATES THE LOGIC OF TRANSFERRING TO
STATE THE TWO POSITIONS IDENTIFIED IN PARA 2, BUT DOES NOT
CONCUR IN THE TRANSFER OF THE THREE POSITIONS IDENTIFIED
IN PARA 3 AND 4. HE WILL CONTACT AID/WASHINGTON ON THE
MATTER AND, UNDERSTANDABLY ENOUGH, WILL SEEK GUARANTEES
OF CONTINUING AND SUSTAINED SUPPORT FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT IN
THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING AND POPULATION PROGRAMS SHOULD THE
OUTLINED POSITION TRANSFER BE MADE.

7. PLEASE ADVISE. LUCEY

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